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Bedford Corners, New York 10549

June 29, 1999

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Jane Henney, MD  
Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857

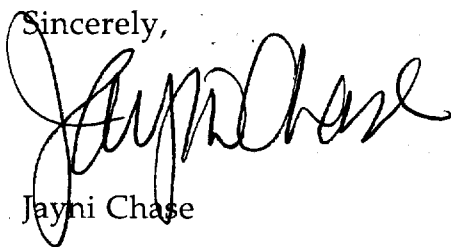
Dear Ms. Henney,

This is a letter of support for the Center for Science in the Public Interest petition to withdraw approvals for the use of medically important antibiotics to promote growth in animals. Diseases long controlled by antibiotics are becoming more difficult to treat. Illnesses once easily curable often fail to respond to previously effective drugs. Over time, diseases become untreatable when antibiotics are overused. Livestock producers must discontinue the misuse of these precious drugs. About a third of the antibiotics manufactured in the United States each year are added to animal feed to fatten animals cheaply. Please don't allow this practice to continue. We are already aware of these risks and so continuing this short-sighted and greedy method of fattening up livestock is absolutely ridiculous. This has already gone too far, it is time to stop this today. There are other ways to produce safe meat at reasonable prices.

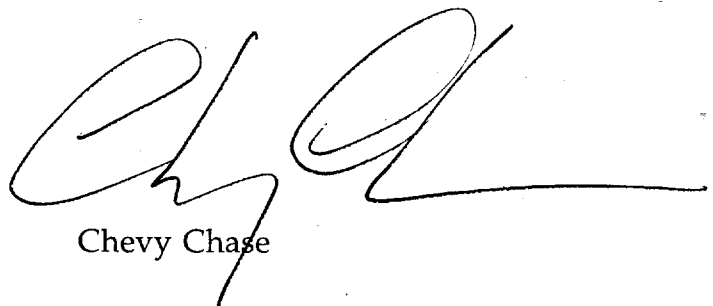
We strongly support, as does the World Health Organization, a ban on the use of medically important antibiotics to promote animal growth. The United States should be leading the world on this issue, not dragging behind reluctantly. As children growing up in this great country, we were taught that the United States was established for "the people." To allow this practice to continue simply so that a handful of American citizens (livestock owners) can profit without thinking of the future ramifications is criminal.

From what we have read, you are in a position to do something about this. We implore you to do so! Please. We can't help but believe that if you truly search your heart and your conscious, it will be clear that using antibiotics in animal feed is a practice that can do tremendous harm in the long run with so little meaningful profit for so few in the meantime.

Sincerely,

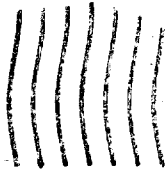


Jayni Chase



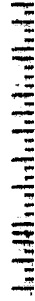
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99P-0485



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